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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECRET

(When Filled In)

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

COUNTRY CUBA

REPORT NO. TDCS -3/559,966

SUBJECT MILITIA ACTION AGAINST ANTI-CASTRO
GUERRILLA FORCES

DATE DISTR. 24 SEPTEMBER 1963

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. AUGUST TO EARLY SEPTEMBER 1963

REFERENCES IN 25484

PLACE & DATE ACQ. 21 SEPTEMBER 1963

D-ACQ-03298

APPRAISAL

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE A HIGH-RANKING CUBAN MILITARY OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR THE PAST TEN MONTHS AND WHO HAS GOOD CONNECTIONS AMONG PROMINENT CUBAN OFFICIALS. TO DATE, SOURCE'S REPORTING RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

1. IN AUGUST 1963 A MILITIA GROUP UNDER THE COMMAND OF MAJOR ESCALONA SURROUNDED THE MATANZAS AREA AND DESTROYED ALL EFFECTIVE ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA RESISTANCE. IN EARLY SEPTEMBER 1963 MAJOR ESCALONA WAS PUT IN COMMAND OF THE MILITIA IN ESCAMBRAY TO OPERATE AGAINST THE ANTI-CASTRO FORCES IN THAT REGION.

2. THE CUBAN MILITIA ARE WELL ARMED AND TRAINED AND IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GUERRILLA FORCES TO SURVIVE THE MILITIA CAMPAIGNS.

TO PREVENT LOCAL SUPPORT OF THE GUERRILLA FORCES, ESCALONA HAS EITHER ARRESTED OR RESETTLED THE ESCAMBRAY FARMERS, MANY OF WHOM ONCE SUPPORTED FIDEL CASTRO.

3. FIELD DISSEM: CINCSO, CINCLANT. END OF MESSAGE

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